

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 (original). Polymer of ethylene which has:
a μ_0/μ_2 ratio of at least 13; and
a high load melt index HLMI lower than 8 g/10 min, and
a value of $\tan \delta$ at $\omega/\omega_c = 0.01$ of less than 1.3, where δ is G''/G' , ω is the frequency at which G'' and G' are measured and ω_c is the frequency at which $G'' = G'$, and G' and G'' are respectively the elastic modulus and viscous modulus, both measured in Pa at 190°C.

2 (original). Polymer according to claim 1, which has a μ_0/μ_2 ratio of at least 14.

3 (currently amended). Polymer according to claim 1 or 2, having a density D (measured according to ASTM D 792 standard) of between 930 and 955 kg/m³.

4 (currently amended). Polymer according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1, having a Pent test value (determined in accordance with ASTM F 1473-94 standard) higher than 150.

5 (currently amended). Polymer according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1, having a polydispersity index greater than 50.

6 (original). Process for the preparation of a polymer of ethylene which has a μ_o/μ_2 ratio of at least 13 and a high load melt index HLMI lower than 8 g/10 min, wherein ethylene, and optionally at least one higher alpha-olefin, are contacted with a catalyst comprising chromium supported on a silica-titania support.

7 (original). Process according to claim 6, which is conducted in the absence of a cocatalyst.

8 (currently amended). Process according to claim 6 ~~or 7~~, wherein the polymer is as defined above~~in any one of claims 1-5~~.

9 (currently amended). Process according to ~~any one of claims 6 to 8~~claim 6, wherein the catalyst contains between 0.8 and 1.5 weight % of chromium and between 1.9 and 3.1 weight % of titanium on the support, based on the weight of the support; and the support has a specific surface area SA (measured in accordance with British Standard BS 4359/1) of between 450 and 550 m²/g, a pore volume PV (measured by BET N₂ analysis using desorption isotherm and considering only radii of pores equal to at least 300 Angstroms) of between 1.8 and 2.7 ml/g, and an average pore diameter between 120 and 200 Angstroms.

10 (currently amended). Pipe comprising a polymer of ethylene as defined in, ~~any of claims 1-5~~claim 1.

11 (currently amended). Use, for the manufacture of pipes by extrusion, of a
polymer of ethylene as defined in ~~any of claims 1-5~~claim 1.